



Synthetic Turf Sports Field

Durable sports field makes watering, fertilizing and mowing unnecessary

Location: Humboldt State University 1 Harpst St., Arcata, CA 95521



*Vendors: West Coast Rubber Recycling
and Shaw Sport Turf*

California tires diverted from landfills: 30,000 tires were used to make the infill that sits between the blades of “grass”

Overview: Green has sprouted from the rain in far northern California. In front of Humboldt State University’s new College Creek Apartments sits a new synthetic turf soccer field. The College Creek Apartments were built to LEED Silver equivalency and the synthetic turf uses infill made from recycled California tires.

The grass-like synthetic turf at College Creek has three layers: a rock base, synthetic turf carpet with a polyurethane-coated backing, and granular recycled tire rubber infill that holds the blades of “grass” in place.

Before installing the new field, the contractor removed 50,000 lbs. of old synthetic turf and 250,000 lbs. of recycled tire rubber infill. The installer packed the old infill into Supersacks and warehoused it for reuse on other jobs.

Year installed: 2010

Savings: Comparing the life cycle costs of natural grass and synthetic turf, the natural grass turf has a lower initial cost but higher lifetime maintenance cost. While the